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Justice

International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union
(ILGWU)

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Justice (Vol. 7, Iss. 25)

International Ladies Garment Workers Union (ILGWU)

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Keywords

International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, ILGWU, labor unions, clothing workers, textile workers, garment workers, garment industry, New York, United States

Comments

Justice was the official publication of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union ILGWU from 1919 to 1995. Editions of *Justice* were published in English, Italian, Spanish, and Yiddish. When compared side by side, the content of some of these different editions of *Justice* shows significant differences. This is the English-language edition of *Justice*.

"My righteousness I hold fast, and will not let it go."

—Job 27:4

JUSTICE

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE INTERNATIONAL LADIES' GARMENT WORKERS' UNION

"Workers of the world unite! You have nothing to lose but your chains."

Vol. VII, No. 25.

NEW YORK, N. Y., FRIDAY, JUNE 19, 1925

Price 2 Cents.

Joint Board Suspends Communists From Executive Boards of Locals 2, 9 and 22

Suspended Communists Charged with Violating Laws and Misusing Funds of Organization — Local Treasuries Attached by I. L. G. W. U. — Offices of Locals 2 and 9 Taken Over by Joint Board — Stories Spread in Communist Sheets that Locals Were Suspended or Disciplined by Joint Board Are Vicious Fabrications.

At the last meeting of the Joint Board of the Cloak and Dress Makers' Union of New York, on Thursday, June 11, a decision was adopted to put a stop to Communist plottings and schemings within the organization of the I. L. G. W. U.

It has become increasingly clear in the last few months that the Communists in the executive boards of Locals 2, 9 and 22 are totally unconcerned about the real problems facing their locals and our industry, but that their chief aim and function is to throw mud and abuse upon our International and to support materially all "morality" its enemies. In short the Communist members of the executive boards of Local 2, 9 and 22 have been "leading" these locals in a manner as to create the impression that they were rather branches of the Communist Party than I. L. G. W. U. locals.

To bring an end to this treachery, Israel Feinberg, the general manager of the Joint Board, preferred written charges against the executive board members of each local separately. These charges recite facts alleging in detail that the Communists in these executive boards have done everything they could to bring our organization into disrepute, to sabotage its constructive work, and to malign and besmirch its chosen leaders and representatives.

The Joint Board at once appointed a special committee to investigate thoroughly the acts which these executive members are being charged with. As these charges are of quite a serious character, the Joint Board ordered that the executive boards of these locals be temporarily suspended pending their trial, in accordance with the by-laws of the Union governing such cases. The Joint Board also requested the International Office forthwith to attach the treasuries of these three locals in order to pre-

vent a raid upon their funds by the Communists.

Simultaneously with the suspension of the executive boards of these locals, the Joint Board also ordered the suspension of local managers, Boruchovitz, Hyman and Portnoy, of Locals 2, 9 and 22 respectively. The administration of the local officers was at once

turned over to special administrators appointed by the Joint Board—Bro. J. M. Ashbes for Local 2 and Brother Sorokin for Local 9.

The fast and firm action of the Joint Board struck like a thunderbolt into the Communist camp. Their sheets are filled to the brim with

(Continued on Page 2)

To the Cloak and Dress Makers of New York

Communist agents bent on converting our trade unions into Communist "cells" are now spreading a brand new fake, namely, that the International Union had suspended Local 2, 9 and 22.

This is a lie out of the whole cloth. The Communist agents are trying to spread this malicious falsehood in order to confuse the minds of the workers. Locals 2, 9 and 22 were never suspended. The Joint Board suspended only the Communist members of the executive boards of these locals who are under grave charges for violating the laws of our Union and for misusing Union funds.

MORRIS SIGMAN, President,
International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union.

500 Attend Jubilant Opening of Unity House on June 13

President Green of the A. F. of L. Says Unity House Is "A Dream Come True" — President Sigman and Secretary Baroff Deliver Inspiring Addresses — A Splendid Concert Program — Representatives of Entire Labor Movement and Labor Press Attend.

The opening of the Workers' Unity House last Friday, June 12th, was a record-breaking event in the history of that remarkable institution, the garden spot owned by the I.L.G.W.U. in the Blue Ridge hills of Pennsylvania.

It was the seventh time that the Unity House opened its doors to welcome a throng of visitors, but it was the first year of the Unity House under the ownership and management

of the International. The buildings and the grounds, indeed, bear unmistakable evidence of new ownership. The whole immense place was put in tip-top shape, and no expense was spared to make things homely and comfortable for the temporary and permanent guests at the Unity House.

By far the biggest group that ever attended a Unity House season opening was on hand, Friday evening, when Secretary Baroff, the chairman of the Unity House Committee, announced that the workers' hostility was ready to entertain its guests. Not only was every local of the I.L.G.W.U. in New York and nearby cities rep-

resented at the opening festivity, but practically every other group of the Labor movement was there, including President William Green, of the A. F. of L. Of the needle industries, there were delegates from the Furriers, the Capmakers, the Fancy Leather Goods Workers, and several others. The United Hebrew Trades, the Workmen's Circle and the Labor press were also represented by delegates.

The crowds began to come in early Friday morning, some by automobile but mostly by train, and all were met at the station and treated with

(Continued on Page 2)

Pioneer Youth Camp Will Open on June 28th, at Pawling, N. Y.

Camp Season to Last Until September 6 — Children of Trade Unionists to Pay Cut Rates.

Pioneer Youth Camp at Pawling, N. Y., conducted by the Pioneer Youth of America, is an educational, creative activity for boys and girls, conducted on a non-profit basis, with the cooperation of progressive educators and labor organizations.

It is the purpose of the Pioneer Youth of America to make available to boys and girls opportunities for developing, into healthy, self-reliant, socially minded and intelligent men and women. Pioneer Youth has no connection with any political groups, but is strongly sympathetic with the socially constructive and fundamental principles of organized Labor.

The Camp, like last year, will be fully self-governing. The children will

be encouraged to assume responsibility for their own affairs. Among the activities in the Camp will be Nature Study, Farming and Care of Camp, Sports, Radio Construction, Mechanics, Photography, Dramatics, Music and Art.

Pioneer Youth Camp is situated on Mammoth School farm, Pawling, New York, in the foot-hills of the Berkshire. It has at its disposal a farm of 177 acres, over a hundred acres of which are woods, hills and playground space. The Camp has an excellent cook and also a dietitian. The large farm insures the Camp with fresh vegetables throughout the summer.

Special low rates are accorded to children of members of Labor Unions,

\$50,000 Already Paid Out By N.Y. Unemployment Fund

In the two weeks, since Monday, June 8, \$50,000 was paid out to workers entitled to receive out-of-work benefit under the regulations adopted by the Unemployment Insurance Fund in the New York Cloak Industry.

The functioning of the Fund, though a new enterprise, has gone on quite smoothly. It is located at 6 East 29th street, and employs a large staff of clerks under the supervision of Mr. James Corcoran, its manager.

Mr. Corcoran expects that in the course of another week or so the machinery of benefit distribution will be so adjusted as to run without the

least hitch or delay. If any of the workers entitled to benefit have for some technical reason not been able to secure their check this week, they may rest assured that they will get two checks next week, as soon as the technicality, which in most cases is faulty recording of the applicant's claim, is removed.

All members of the Cloakmakers' Union of New York who are entitled to unemployment benefit will get it. A delay of a long time may at times be caused, but that will in no way affect the claim which will be fully paid out the next week.

500 Attend Opening of Unity House in Forest Park on June 13

(Continued from Page 1)

the utmost courtesy and attention. Of the five hundred that arrived for the opening event, about one hundred and fifty remained for their vacations. President Green reached Stroudsburg late on Friday evening where he was met by President Sigman, Secretary Baroff and a few members of the General Executive Board and escorted to the Unity House. There, notwithstanding the lateness of the hour, a great crowd awaited him on the main veranda and in the reception hall and gave the party a vociferous welcome upon their arrival.

House Officially Opened on Saturday Night

The official opening of the Unity House took place on Saturday night and was accompanied by a concert in the beautifully decorated Main Hall, and a number of addresses.

Secretary Baroff spoke first briefly on behalf of the Workers' Unity House committee, and outlined the work achieved by this committee and the numerous improvements and renovations it had introduced in the place. The appreciative audience lustily acclaimed Secretary Baroff's remarks apparently eager to give the committee its recognition for the remarkable external and internal improvements which were in evidence at every step and turn in the House. Baroff thanked in the name of the G. E. B. Brother Scheinholtz, the administrator of the Unity estate, for his capable management of the place and also Mr. Tullip, his associate, and the entire staff of the Unity establishment.

Brother Baroff was followed by President Sigman, who began by saying that the Unity House this year, perhaps more than at any previous season, impresses the visitor as an extraordinary place, an ideal location for rest, amusement and recreation. "The Unity House," he said further, "symbolizes the growth of our Union in the last 15-16 years. Who indeed could have dreamed 15 years ago that the workers in the ladies' garment industry would be the proud owners of such a magnificent estate where, for a very reasonable fee, they could spend a vacation under the most ideal physical and spiritual environments? But it is a fact—Unity House is here and we are immensely proud of our achievement." — President Sigman, added amid a storm of applause.

He concluded by thanking all the groups and sections of the Labor movement who came to take part in the opening of the place, and expressed special gratification with the fact that the chief officer of the A. P. of L., President William Green, had come to share the joy of the occasion with the active workers in the I. L. G. W. U. and its friends.

Secretary Baroff then introduced President William Green who received a wholehearted ovation as he rose to speak. (The reader will find the full text of his remarks on page 7 of this issue.)

The Concert in the Evening

After the speeches were over, the concert arranged with care and rare judgment by the House Committee, took place. The first among the performers on the program was Saul Baroff, violinist, whose playing met with a burst of applause and a persistent demand for encores. He was followed by Henri Wirsler, a tenor with a remarkable voice, who sang a number of operatic arias. M. Wirsler, is a recent arrival from Europe where he spent years studying in Italy, and is well known in the management of the well known impresario,

S. Harok, who accompanied him to the Unity House. The third and fourth on the program were the 'cellist Solecki, and Miss Dora Boshow, soprano, who delighted the audience with their playing and singing.

A number of telegrams were received during the evening from persons who could not reach Forest Park on time for the occasion, among these were messages from Hugh Frayne, John P. Coghlin, Fannia M. Cohn, Charles Jacobson, and many others.

The Unity House Committee, besides Secretary Baroff, consists of Vice-Presidents Zetaberg, Halprin, Breslaw and Heesberg. The opening was also attended by Vice-Presidents Max Amdur of Philadelphia, Sol Feldman of Boston and Samuel Lefkowitz of New York.

A Unique Housing Venture

A limited dividend corporation—the City Housing Corporation—has been formed in New York City to erect moderately priced houses for families whose income is around \$2,400 a year. This venture has been begun by a small group of men and women who are investing their money at a low fixed return and asking others to join them in the enterprise which will aid in the solution of the housing problem. They hold that well built, low priced houses can be erected near New York for people of moderate means. The City Housing Corporation has already erected houses and apartments for 128 families. Only 28 per cent of the land is built upon; the remainder is given over to play grounds and gardens. The houses are sold on easy terms, with small "down payments" and low charges per month, per room. The purposes of this corporation will commend itself to those who wish to combine social service with an investment yielding moderate return. Among the members of the board of directors are persons of wide business experience and high standing.

Communists Suspended from Locals 2, 9 and 22 Executive Boards

(Continued from Page 1)

venomous calumny, unbelievable stories, and ghastly, blood-curdling tales. They accuse the Joint Board with every crime on the calendar, but it is obviously their last squeal. Certainly no person with a working brain would lend any credence to their wild stories and the fabrications which they are inventing to bolster up their failing spirits.

It is quite clear to any dispassionate observer that the move of the Joint Board to rid our locals from the Communist pest, was a master-stroke that will clean the powerful cloakmakers' organization from the stench of the Communist disease which has threatened in the last year or two to undermine this bulwark of strength of the tens of thousands of workers in the cloak and dress industries of New York City.

Baltimore Fund Starts Payment of Benefits

Payment of unemployment insurance benefits to qualified local members of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union will be started in Baltimore this week. Jacob M. Moses is trustee of the unemployment insurance fund established by mutual agreement in the women's clothing industry of Baltimore after the strike last summer.

To each unemployed worker qualified by previous contributions for the receipt of benefit will be given \$12 this week, representing unemployment insurance benefits for three weeks. This partial payment, of course, will not exhaust the claim to additional benefit of those who have been out of work for a longer period.

Contributed Jointly

Contributions to the insurance fund are made jointly by 15 employers and by the organized employes belonging to Local No. 4 of Baltimore. Of these nearly ninety per cent are said to be unemployed at present, nearly all adults with dependents.

Each employee contributes to the fund one per cent of his or her weekly earnings while at work, the employer's contribution being two per cent of his weekly pay roll.

The payment of benefits from the fund, which has been accumulating since last August, is contingent on the number of individual contributions and on satisfactory evidence that unemployment is due to causes over which the worker has no control.

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Four percent Interest

FIFTH AVENUE AND TWENTY-FIRST STREET

Member Federal Reserve System

With the New York Cloak and Dress Joint Board

By JOSEPH FISH,
Secretary-Treasurer.

A special meeting of the Joint Board was held on Thursday, June 11, 1925, at the Auditorium of the International, 3 West 16th Street, Chairman—Brother Ansel.

Committees:

A committee of the workers of T. Kilgustin informs the Board that due to the contention of the firm that they intend to make a better line of work, it was agreed that 9 operators, 9 finishers and 2 pressers should leave the shop, and the Union agreed to send up, in their places, other union members, competent for that line of work.

Brother Treichman states that it is the opinion of the committee that the operators were not discriminated against. They, however, believe that several finishers, who are to leave the shop, are competent for that line of work. The committee requests that action be taken against the firm on that ground.

The case is referred to the Board of Directors.

Communications:

Local No. 2 informs the Board that they have approved the minutes of the Joint Board of May 22nd with the exception of—

1—The \$500 donation to the Yiddish Folks Zeitung in Poland,
2—The unsetting of Brother Himmelfarb as a delegate of Local No. 22 to the Joint Board for having accepted \$1.50 as expenses for a meeting when serving as a paid official of the Local.

3—The reprimand given to Business Agent Brother Weisberg of Local No. 22, and

4—The appointment of Brother Miller as Business Agent of Local No. 2. The same Local protests against the action of the Joint Board Grievance Committee in trying B. Rubinstein, a member of Local No. 2. They request that this case be referred to the Local Grievance Committee.

Chairman, Brother Ansel, explains that the Joint Board Grievance Committee was justified in trying Brother Rubinstein for the reason that the charge against him was to the effect that he insulted a Joint Board officer.

Local No. 2 further notifies the Board that at a meeting of their Executive Board on June 2nd, the brief submitted to the Governor's Advisory Commission by the Union has been widely discussed, and after due deliberation concluded that the Union cannot expect anything from the Governor's Commission to better the conditions in our industry and the circumstances of the cloak-makers in general. The Local requests the Joint Board to reconsider the question as set forth in the brief and to reaffirm its previous stand in regard to them.

General Manager Feinberg states that he spent several hours with the Executive Board of Local No. 2, explaining to them as clearly as possible the demands in the brief to the Governor's Commission. At that time it seemed that every member of the Executive Board was satisfied with his explanation, as no one tried to repudiate his statements. He is therefore of the opinion that the purpose of the Local in sending this communication is to injure the Union in its demands.

The communication is tabled.
Local No. 10 informs that they have approved the report of the Board of Directors of May 29th and the minutes of the Joint Board of May

22nd with the exception of the stand taken by the Joint Board in the case of Business Agent Weisberg.

The same Local approved the minutes of the Joint Board of May 15th and the report of the Board of Directors of May 15th.

Local No. 22 advises the Board that they have approved the report of the Board of Directors of May 20th and the minutes of the Joint Board of May 22nd with the following exceptions:

1—The tabling of a communication from Local No. 22.
2—The donation of \$500 for the Folks Zeitung in Poland.
3—The unsetting of delegate Kokytsh and Himmelfarb, and
4—That Brother Weisberg be reprimanded.

The same Local notifies the Board that Brother Charles Zimmermann was appointed as acting secretary in the place of Brother Portnoy, who is ill.

Local No. 48 informs the Board that Brother Nussie Castrovinski was appointed to replace Brother Vito Catana at the Joint Board, as the latter left for Europe.

Local No. 89 advises the Board that they have approved the report of the Board of Directors of May 20th and the minutes of the Joint Board of May 22nd with the following exceptions:

1—To reprimand Business Agent Weisberg.
2—The unsetting of Brother Himmelfarb as delegate of the Joint Board.

The Russian-Polish Branch informs the Board that they have approved the minutes of the Joint Board of May 22nd with the exception of the decision to unseat Brother Kokytsh as delegate of the Joint Board.

Brother Pankin, of Local No. 10, makes a motion that the Joint Board should reconsider its previous decision in the case of Business Agent Weisberg.

The Joint Board then decides that the case against Business Agent Weisberg be dismissed.

Brother Feinberg files charges with the Joint Board against the officers and Executive Boards of Locals No. 2, 9 and 22. The charges state that the accused have intentionally violated Sections 9 and 10 of Article 5 and Section 6 of Article 11 of the International Constitution and that Local No. 22 has, in addition to this, misused funds of the organization as security for a loan to an organization which has no connection with Local No. 22 or the I. L. G. W. U.

Brother Feinberg requests that a committee be appointed to investigate these charges.

The request is granted and the following Brothers are appointed in the committee: Forer, Schwartz, Bornstein, Konak, Ambrosini, Roshinsky, Milazzo, the Chairman of the Joint Board, Brother Ansel, and Secretary-Treasurer Fish.

It is also decided that these persons against whom the charges have been filed should be suspended from their various offices in the Union until the committee, appointed by the Joint Board, will render its decision.

Upon a motion, it was then decided that the Joint Board should take full charge of the three mentioned locals. The motion is passed.

M. K. MACKOFF
BUSINESS BROKER
225 Fifth Ave., Room 1101 New York
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All Legislative Business For Sale and Purchase

Where Food Money Goes

The movement for greater efficiency has gone a considerable distance in factories, and has made progress on farms. It has much further to go in both places. But if wage-earners and farmers want really to lower the cost of living and raise their incomes they should look chiefly to reducing the waste in distribution of the products once made. For distribution processes are glaringly inefficient beside productive ones.

A study just issued by the Port of New York Authority reveals that of \$5.89 paid for a box of fine Oregon apples in New York, the farmer receives only \$1.19, or 23 per cent, for the packed box. Forty-seven cents out of the dollar paid for apples goes to marketing costs after they reach the city. This is true also of other vegetables and fruits.

It costs 42 cents to transport a sack of potatoes 1,120 miles from Michigan to New York, against 62 cents to take it 15 miles from New York terminal to the retailer. Much the same story may doubtless be told of other cities.

After the food train reaches its destination, the cars have to be switched about, run on floats and ferried across the Hudson River. They are unloaded on the pier. Horse trucks then take the produce about five hundred yards and unload it again on to motor trucks in the street. These trucks take the food to jobbers' markets where it is again unloaded. From

there it is shipped, sometimes direct to the retailer, sometimes through one or more other way-stations. All these loading and unloading cost money. Every merchant handling the food adds his profit. And the trucks themselves are not actively giving full service for much more than a third of the time they are paid for. All this shows lack of planning for the public good which enormously raises the price.

Stores which deliver and give credit charge about 14 per cent more than stores which sell for cash and depend on their customers to carry away the purchases. Sales in small quantities also enlarge the margin of distributive cost.

It is a mistake to think all this "middle margin" arises from profiteering and could be abolished by law. It can be abolished only by the provision of proper terminal facilities and by good organization of delivery. If the consumers in the cities could find some way of organizing themselves to simplify the process, they could eliminate not merely the middleman's profit, but the far more important waste motion in distribution.

The problem ought not to be beyond the power of modern science. It is a complex one, but no more complex than many others which have yielded to intelligence. It is worthy of much attention, and is receiving an increasing amount of it.

PROMINENT CITIZENS ENDORSE THE "PROSANIS" HEALTH LABEL

Mr. Julius Henry Cohen, formerly counsel for the Cloak and Suit Protective Association, and author of "Law and Order in Industry," in giving his endorsement of the Label writes the following illuminating letter on the function of the "Prosanis" Label in the Cloak and Dress Industries: "The 'Prosanis' Label is the first real effort to concentrate the power of the consumer in the direction of peace, of order, of security of employment and of progress in the industry. The manufacturer and the worker have been fighting against underlining economic forces. Up to this time, the unregulated purchasing power of women has been used against the efforts of those who would keep living conditions in women's industry clean and fair. Woman now has the power in her hands. She can cast her vote for or against healthful and decent conditions in one industry at least. She may now elect between the garments she buys for herself. Never before did she have such an opportunity. Now she has it. 'Prosanis' or 'No Prosanis.' Label or no label. Sanitary conditions or sweatshop. Which will she choose? When she knows what 'Prosanis' means, her answer will be what we have always said it would be.

"But this is the first time she has been given a chance. Not by law then, but by voluntary effort of the

parties interested is there a combination in restraint of trade—a legal and justifiable restraint of trade—trade in that which should not be traded in. Women will decide what women shall wear—in the matter of cleanliness and decency as well as in the matter of style."

WAGES AND HOURS OF LABOR IN THE HOSIERY AND UNDERWEAR TRADE

The Department of Labor, through the Bureau of Labor Statistics, has issued a report, Bulletin number 376, on wages and hours in the hosiery and underwear industry in 1924. The report is based on information relating to more than 38,000 wage earners employed by 145 establishments in 16 States.

The average hourly earnings of the male employees in the industry were 55.5 cents, and of the female employees, 35.6 cents. The average hourly earnings of all employees in the industry in 1924 were nearly 128 per cent higher than in 1913, and ten per cent higher than in 1922.

The average full-time hours per week were approximately eight per cent lower than in 1913.

The report contains detailed data of hourly and weekly earnings and hours for 23 specified occupations, by sex of employees and State. There is also interesting information relating to days of operation and idleness, overtime rates, bonus systems, etc.

JUSTICE

A Labor Weekly

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Office, 2 West 16th Street, New York, N. Y. Tel. Chelsea 2144
MORRIS SIGMAN, President.
A. BAROFF, Secretary-Treasurer. H. A. SCHOOUMAN, Business Manager.

MAX D. DANISH, Managing Editor

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In the Cooperative World

Co-Operation Combats Low Wage Chain Store System.

Big dividends for owners and the lowest wages paid women in any industry are high spots in the 1924 record of the Woolworth and Kresge chain stores. Operated at variance with nearly every principle of co-operation, these chains are lamentable examples of profit-seeking individualism in its worst aspects. While the lucky possessors of Woolworth stock were collecting \$31.80 on every \$100 share, women employed in the 5 and 10 cents stores of Ohio were trying to exist on a \$10.55 wage. The Cleveland Associated Charities declares a girl cannot live on less than \$17 a week unless she depends on her family or other means for charitable help.

The Woolworth 1924 dividend, high as it is, was less than the 1923 melon, while the Kresge profit was \$40.65 for every \$100 share. Against this is the record of 80 per cent. of chain store women employees receiving less than \$12 a week.

Co-operative stores of England and the United States have reversed this unhealthy disparity between profits and wages by limiting the return on capital, assuring workers a fair wage, and giving the surplus to customers. There is little hope in America for the victory of the chain stores, including both wage-earners and customers, declares the All-American Co-operative Commission, until the principles of Rochdale co-operation are brought into play.

Women in the Japanese Co-Operative Movement.

Mrs. Kiyoko Ohtani, President of the Women's Guild of the Co-operative Movement of Japan, has issued a manifesto to the women of her country. The following are extracts from her manifesto:

"We all realize, with much apprehension, that Japan today is on the verge of an economic crisis. No patchwork policies, such as raising the import duties, or the Government regulation of prices of commodities, can avail to root out the economic evil. Production may be forever developed, but it is of no use unless there be a radical change of mind on our part regarding consumption. We women of Japan retreat to own that we have not hitherto organized any systematic, direct movement to grapple with the essential problems of life. The task of establishing Consumers' Economics with a view to a better and safer life rests on the shoulders of us women. Confronting the present national crisis, we feel how important it is for us women, especially housewives, to do what we can to realize economic stability."

As a beginning, the Guild is organizing an exhibition, which will be the first thing of its kind in Japan. The international aspects of the movement will be emphasized in this exhibit.

"The feeling that we are one in Co-operation," the President writes to the International Women's office, "women of the West and East, united for the same great cause as torch-bearers and marching on to the same goal, fills us with hope and faith."

Growth of Co-operative Movement

The amount of business done by cooperative associations in the United States will reach the sum of \$2,800,000,000 in 1924, according to preliminary figures being compiled by the U. S. Department of Agriculture. This

will be an increase over 1923 of approximately \$100,000,000. The total number of farmers' business organizations in the United States is in excess of 12,000 with a membership of about 2,500,000 farmers. In 1915 the turnover of farmer cooperatives in the United States was about \$625,000,000.

It is significant to note that the present important position attained by agricultural cooperation in the United States is the result of over half a century of cooperative effort. The history of agricultural cooperation in the United States runs back to the middle of the last century. The first type of cooperation among the American farmers probably dates back to a cooperative cheese factory which was organized in Oneida County, N. Y., in 1851. One of the oldest cooperative enterprises in the United States which is still operating is a cheese factory in Fond du Lac, Wisconsin County, N. Y., which was established in 1863. One of the first cooperative creameries in this country was the Walkhill Creamery, in Orange County, N. Y., organized in 1856. Among the fruit and vegetable growers the earliest cooperative organization was founded in Hammon, N. J., in 1867 and is reported to have operated for 21 years. The first attempt in co-operative organization among the grain growers in the central west was establishing the farmers' elevators in the late 60's. One of the early farmer elevators was organized at Blairtown, Iowa, in 1864. The first attempt in cooperative livestock marketing was the organization of the Goodlettsville Lamb Club at Goodlettsville, Tenn., in 1877. One of the earliest farmers' livestock shipping associations at Superior, Nebraska, founded November 24, 1883. This association is still operating.

On the Pacific Coast the first attempt in organization among the citrus growers was at Riverside, Calif., in 1885. In 1889, the Raisin Growers at Fresno, California, started their first organization. The Walnut Growers at Santa Paula, Calif., in 1885, and the Almond Growers at Lavis, Calif., in 1887, were among early California attempts at cooperative organization.

Militarizing America

By NORMAN THOMAS

For an avowedly peace loving people we Americans have started on a nice military summer. We began with the maneuvers at Hawaii. As the Baltimore Evening Sun points out the maneuvers were a great success for everybody but the taxpayer. They proved the need of more defenses in Hawaii, more ships to attack, greater air forces both to attack and defend. That is the purpose of maneuvers—to prove that the taxpayers must spend more money on armament. The fact that the Four-Power Treaty in the Pacific was intended to arrest for at least 10 years the increase of armaments there is nothing in the life of our belligerent admirals and our jingoistic newspaper writers. By the way, did you know that a small regiment of newspaper editors from towns big and small was taken along with the Fleet so that they could "sell" the preparedness idea to the country?

Next our great Fleet is probably going to Australia to fraternize with the Australians. That would be good, if expensive, save for the fact that everybody knows that such fraternization is pointed directly against Japan and has already aroused a veritable tempest even in the more moderate portions of the Japanese press.

But the Army isn't leaving all the work to the Navy. We have 90,000 reserve army officers who will have to mobilize on the 4th of July. Before the war to end war we had none. We have the R. O. T. C. in most of our colleges. In many of them, by agreement between the college and the War Department, military training is compulsory. You can't get an education without learning the goose step. Special Inducements of honor, glory or money make military training palatable to the student. Military training is spreading to high schools where 40,000 boys are under drill. Then, some 50,000 citizens will soon be on their way to the Citizens Military Training Camps where they are offered a cheap and attractive vacation. (It is to be regretted that so far these camps are only for men, but the War Department is planning for camps for women to combat pacifism

among them.) Fond mothers are assured that the boys won't bear any rough language from the sergeants—nothing like the awful talk in "What Price Glory". Preachers are assured that the men who come, times out of church at home will have to go to camp.

Oh yes, it will all be pious and uplifting, but at the bottom of it all is the war psychology and the military disbelief in the possibility of permanent peace. If what is wanted is preparation for peace, we might have camps with better exercise than military drill, with instruction in good citizenship and international friendliness. Do you think Congress would appropriate money for this sort of thing? We don't mean that as yet this military training is making permanent militarists out of us all. It is not. It is only a beginning and it is so regarded by our military men. What they have wanted ever since the war is compulsory military training and service. The amount of actual military training they now import is negligible. What they are concerned for, as General Pershing frankly admitted at a conference in 1922 is an "attitude of mind" and a "regimentation" "by all available methods" of the idea of military training. To attain this end military instructors in colleges and camps are necessarily ardent propagandists for the military point of view. An R. O. T. C. manual extols force as the ultimate power, attacks the high wages of manual workers during the war and demands a military policy which includes compulsory military service and a standing army more than double its present size. Nor is that the worst of it. Since it is almost impossible to frighten taxpayers into preparing for some indefinite future war it is necessary to suggest a specific enemy. So our militarists in and out of uniform go around playing up a fear of attack by Japan which no less an authority than Admiral Sims has recently declared to be baseless. Meanwhile, our obliging Post Office Department sends to all parts of the world letters with a cancellation stamp reading "Let's Go! Citizens' Military Training Camp". It proves, you see, to Europe and Asia our hatred of militarism.

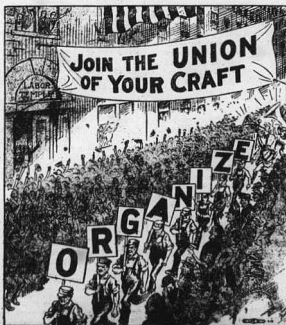
To his credit President Coolidge has done something against this militaristic pressure. He kept the Navy from elevating the guns on the ships. He is reported to be averse to the Australian trip. He refused to turn Armistice Day into Defense Day. He gave wholesome advice on the road to peace and the proper attitude of nations in addressing the graduating class at Annapolis. But this is not enough. It is not certain that the President will stand firm unless he is not only backed up but pushed forward by an overwhelming demand on the part of the people of America that we should not begin to walk the path the European nations have walked in bitterness and sorrow. It is as true of us as it was of them that we shall get what we prepare for. If we prepare for war we shall get war. We shall have peace unless we prepare for it.

SHOP CHAIRMAN GETS GIFT

We, the workers of Swirsky & Cohen, 215 West 20th street, decided to present to Bro. J. Flister a valuable gift for his good work as shop chairman in the hope that he will continue to render us loyal services in the future.

ABRAHAM PLAVNICK,
SAMUEL, CARD,
J. PLATZMAN, Committee.

THE GREAT DRIVE STARTS



Three Months of I. L. G. W. U. Activity

II.

From the report of General Secretary Baroff the conclusion is plain that the financial condition of the International is very far from satisfactory. The income of the office is still smaller than its expenses, the major part of which, during the past year, had been incurred in the dress strike in Chicago, in the Canadian cloak strike, and the continued organization campaigns carried on daily in and outside of New York City.

The \$250 assessment levied by the General Office upon the members of the I. L. G. W. U. at the special meeting of G.L.B. in Bridgeport, Conn., has so far failed to bring substantial returns. The blame for this should be placed not on the members themselves but upon the officers of some of the locals, who have adopted a "rebellious" attitude on this subject and would not comply with the orders of the General Office. Secretary Baroff stated his own experience in this respect with Local 23, the office clerk could refuse to accept from him assessment money upon the instruction of the executive board of the local, thus overriding the decision of the G. E. B. and defying the constitution of the International Union.

In the other two locals, 2 and 3, the situation in this regard is not much better, and their executive boards have not lifted a finger either to carry out the decision of the G. E. B. concerning this tax. It is quite evident that in this respect the executive boards of the aforementioned locals are obeying the orders of some outside agency, which is not only alien to the I. L. G. W. U. but is its implacable enemy. Secretary Baroff concludes his report with the following ominous words:

"It appears to me that as the supreme body of the International this General Executive Board, in whose hands the leadership of the organization and the responsibility for it was placed by our convention, cannot and must not sit quietly by and watch this group destroy and demoralize the Union. The General Executive Board must take a firm and definite step to squelch the destructive acts of these local executive boards, thereby setting an example for others and actually saving the organization. If we fail to do so we will have violated the pledge that we had made to uphold the constitution of our International and to make it the living law of our Union."

The other important point in Bro. Baroff's report is the one concerning former Local 17 and its former secretary Heller and his relations to the G. E. B. from which he did not yet obtain official resign. In order to avoid any ambiguity we shall quote verbatim from the Baroff report in this matter, and also the decision adopted by the G. E. B. against Heller and the other members of former Local 17, who, under Heller's leadership, had waged that notorious injunction campaign against the I. L. G. W. U.

"In the matter of the finances of former Local 17," Secretary-Treasurer Baroff writes, "a subject which raised considerable interest among the members of the General Executive Board at the last meeting, I desire to state that I had first considered the lodging of proper charges against ex-Vice-President Heller for his activities in opposition to the International and for the manner in which money of the local had been expended by his authority. I found, however, that according to our constitution a vice-president can only be charged with violation of union rules

Observations at the Quarterly Meeting of the G. E. B. in Chicago

By S. YANOVSKY

by his local union, and this part of the subject, therefore, had to be dropped. I invited Heller, Stankovic and Delson to explain certain expenses made by them, and their explanation was that they had spent this money in paying for time lost by members in organizing a demonstration in front of the Forward Building, in going as committees to meetings of locals for the purpose of creating sympathy for their fight to retain their local, etc. Since that interview no additional action was taken in this matter. Meanwhile, Heller became connected with some private business, which automatically suspends him from membership in our organization and likewise definitely severs his connections with the General Executive Board."

On the basis of Secretary Baroff's report, and after a long discussion, in which all the members of the Board took part, including President Sigman, the following decision was unanimously adopted:

"First, it is agreed that Jacob Heller, now that he is engaged in a business outside of his trade, is automatically dropped as a member of the G. E. B. in accordance with Article 4, Section 19 of our Constitution, and he has therefore no longer any relations with it.

"Secondly, with regard to the activity of Jacob Heller in securing an injunction against the International and defying the decision of the late President Samuel Gompers of the A. F. of L., that he comply with the decision of our G. E. B. regarding the merger of the operators' locals in New York, the G. E. B. fully agrees that this action of Mr. Heller was finally taken of our International and the Labor movement in general, and that he has in this way made himself unworthy ever again to be a part of the Labor movement.

"Thirdly, Mr. Heller, as secretary of former Local 17, was obliged, under the by-laws of our Union, to hand over to the Secretary-Treasurer of the International Union all moneys and other property of that local after the withdrawal of its charter. This he did not do. When an account was finally taken of the moneys and property of former Local 17 it was found that the money had been expended but no satisfactory account could be made by them for such expenditures. "It is therefore the opinion of the G. E. B. that the manner in which the money was spent—for the purpose of committing an act of treason against the International—was disgraceful to the entire Labor movement and that we place the responsibility for this act on the person whom we consider the leading upstart of the entire affair—Jacob Heller."

This decision was adopted unanimously. What concerns the other members of Local 17 who took an active part in that affair, Vice-President Perlestein reported that they were called to a hearing before a committee of Local 23, but that this local had not acted in this matter yet. The G. E. B. instructed Bro. Perlestein to take further care of this matter and to see that a quick decision with regard to them be reached and announced.

In addition to his regular duties as secretary-treasurer of the International, Bro. Baroff had taken, in the

last few months, a very active part in the renovation of our Unity House in Forest Park, taken over by the International from Local 23. The task of renovation achieved by Baroff as chairman of the Workers' Unity House was fully appreciated a few days ago by the nearly 500 guests who came to the opening of our summer house on June 12. It is to all intents and purposes a new Unity House in every respect. In this work Bro. Baroff was materially aided by the other members of the Unity Committee, including Vice-President Scheinholz, who is the administrator of the House for the entire season.

From the reports of Vice-Presidents Meyer Perlestein, Israel Feinberg, Salvatore Nifio, Fannia M. Cohn, Samuel Leftofsky, Elias Rosberg, Max Amdur, Joseph Breslaw, Sol Seidman and Fred Monahan (Vice-Presidents Wander and Dubinsky are on leave of absence in Europe), as well as from the various communications which reached the G. E. B. during the sessions, it is quite apparent that the work of the International is continuing everywhere as vigorously as ever.

It is true that in a few localities, such as Cincinnati, Baltimore and on the Pacific Coast the situation is very unsatisfactory. The locals in these cities can hardly boast that they control work conditions in our trades in their markets, and the results achieved in these places is entirely out of accord with the effect and money spent there by the Union. The situation, however, even in these cities, is not hopeless. It will require, of course, additional and renewed efforts on the part of the International to place these cities properly on our map, but this must and will be done.

A phenomenon worth noticing is the fact that in many cities there has come forth in recent months a demand on the part of the Italian workers for special organizations, or even special Italian locals, like in Cleveland, Boston and Brooklyn, N. Y. It is apparent that our trades, only until a few years ago composed almost entirely of Jewish workers, are beginning to be invaded by workers speaking other languages, and it will be, of course, the duty of the I.L.G.W.U. to stress organizing activity among these workers and to enroll them under our banner, for their own sake and for the sake of the organized workers in our trades.

Another thing worth noting, which appears from the report of President Sigman and from some of the reports by the members of the Board, is that notwithstanding all difficulties the ebullient spirit of forces in our Union goes on unbroken. Boards and locals which, by the processes of time have been made obsolete are being relegated as fast as possible to the past. Recently there has taken place the merger of the two joint boards in Philadelphia, and both Vice-Presidents Amdur and Rosberg agree that while this amalgamation cannot fail to benefit both the dress and the cloak unions of that city, a great deal will yet have to be done before this merger becomes an actual reality despite the fact that officially it had taken place already. A new joint board was elected, and the cloakmakers have arranged a warm farewell dinner to Bro. Amdur, who is leaving for Canada to take charge of the Canadian locals for the International.

Vice-President Feinberg is now the manager of the new joint board, and from his report it appears that there is still an active element in the Phila-

delphia cloakmakers' organization which, while professing to be for a merger, is nevertheless, in fact against it, as it proposes such terms that the other side cannot and will not accept it.

The G. E. B. would not, of course, on an account of that withdrawal its decision with regard to the merger in Philadelphia. This merger in its judgment is a vital necessity in that city; there is no room in Philadelphia for two joint boards and two managers, and the amalgamation must take place despite the opposition of that element.

And while speaking of amalgamation it is in place to mention here that Locals 28 and 50 have, of their own accord, reached the decision recently that they could benefit a great deal if they united their forces. They at last carried out their wish in this matter and the private dressmakers are now together with the ladies' tailors in one local, No. 28. The G. E. B. sanctioned this merger upon a written request presented by these two locals.

The situation in the New York dress and cloak markets was made clear to the whole G. E. B. through the detailed reports of Vice-Presidents Feinberg, Breslaw and Perlestein. Feinberg dwelt at length on conditions in the dress industry and explained that the earnings in the trade are at present materially higher than ever before and that the ravages of the "reds" concerning the "terrible" condition of the dressmakers is mere myth and fake. The unemployment insurance plan, so far, has not made any headway in the dress trade, and the relations with the jobbers are far from desirable. The Joint Board intends to direct its efforts, at the first opportunity, to bring an end to some of the abnormal conditions in the dress industry.

Breslaw reported in a similar vein and expressed his opinion that the situation in New York is perhaps more earnest than what some believe it to be. He hopes to break out conflict on all fronts as far as the immediate future, for which the Union must be prepared.

Vice-President Perlestein touched at first upon his visit to Cleveland and the problem of organizing the shops near that city, which are trying to escape Union standards of labor. An able organizer should be placed in the field to take care of this highly important work. He further proceeded to report about his work as administrator of Local 2, drawing a complete picture of the character of the present executive board of the local and declaring himself entirely in accord with the previous speakers on this matter—that only a very energetic stand on the part of the International could bring to an end the chaos which the communist-ridden executive boards of Locals 2, 9 and 22 are creating in their locals.

This subject is discussed elsewhere in this issue, where the viewpoint of the International concerning this important matter is given at length. We shall return to the meeting of the G. E. B. in our third and last article next week.

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EDITORIALS

THE UNION ABOVE ALL

This is the sum and substance of it all.

It is not a question of socialism, communism, anarchism, or of any other "ism". It is not a question of this or that political party, of this or that publication. It is a question whether the Union itself, through its own members, its own leadership, and its own constitution administer its own affairs and protect the interests of the workers in the industry, or become a tail to a kite flown by a coterie of political seekers to be used by them for their purposes. The question is—shall the Union be free and independent of all outside and alien influences and shall it, in its own way, beating out its own path, continue to grow and acquire greater strength and influence—even at the risk of making a blunder occasionally; or shall we make a gift of it to a gang of impostors and maniacs who are trying to delude themselves and others into believing that they are called upon by the hand of Fate to manipulate the destinies of our organization.

This struggle is not an affair of yesterday, either.

Many, many years ago, when our trade union movement still was in its teens, there has prevailed among many Socialists and Anarchists a deeply-ingrained belief that destiny had ordained them to steer the labor unions and to manipulate their course in accordance with their own ideas. Even in those early days, however, the trade unions have displayed a strong opposition to these self-anointed rulers and dictators to the labor movement. The "dictators" of that period, in order to carry out their "sacred" mission and to force their will upon the trade unions did not hesitate to split and break up the existing labor organizations. They organized opposition "unions" of their own which brought chaos and disorder into the Labor movement. Their "unions" acted as strike-breaking agencies upon numerous occasions and their wild antics created bitter animosity and bloody hatreds in the shops. The only ones to benefit by this orgy of destruction, naturally, were the employing interests.

This debauchery of union-smashing for the sake of "principles" lasted for a long time—until the union movement in our trades, at least, became totally disintegrated and ruined.

Out of the ruins, there has finally sprung a new trade union movement, which adopted as one of its cardinal principles that no outside force or factor, no matter how well-intentioned, should have a say in the conduct of the affairs of the trade union body. The new movement based its existence upon the great principle of self-determination. The trade union, it asserted, might make mistakes, it is true, but these shall be mistakes of its own, and from these mistakes it will learn to avoid pitfalls in the future.

The adoption of this underlying thought marks the beginning of the new life and of the influential activity of our Labor movement. From that period begins its phenomenal growth, and since that day few if any outsiders have had the temerity to "butt" into our trade union affairs uninvited. Those who from time to time made such attempts, received for their pains timely and well-merited repulse and have lost, in short order, the taste for such adventures.

Then came the Russian Bolshevik revolution, and its leaders, not satisfied with putting under their iron heel the Russian workers, had taken upon themselves the mission of terrorizing the Labor movements of every other country in the world into submission to their will and order—a ludicrous adventure which spelt as much ruin to the workers' organizations as the disastrous attempts of the vest-pocket custodians of the Only and Ultimate Truth of a generation ago. Unfortunately, however, these present-day lunatics have, by a fling of fate, become the rulers of a great State. With the aid of the great sums which they were able to assign for "propaganda" in Europe and America, they have attracted to "communism" not only blind fanatics but a horde of mercenary camp-followers, and, equipped with newspapers published at the expense of the Russian treasury, and with the aid of leaflets and meetings, they started upon their "holy crusade" to capture the trade unions and to subordinate them to their purposes.

The fight of the unions against the new intruders bent upon rule or ruin flared up again. We shall not restate here now the chapters of the defensive struggle which our International Union has been compelled to wage against these "communists". Our members, no doubt, remember vividly the crushing blow dealt by our last convention, in May, 1924, in Boston, these "revolutionists", members of the Workers' Party and of the Trade Union "Educational" League. The few delegates who remained at the conven-

tion as communist emissaries were in an insignificant minority, while the great majority of our delegates once again reaffirmed the policy of the organization that our Union is of the workers and for the workers and that any outsiders who would force their overlordship upon it should be treated as trespassers and intermeddlers and driven out as a pest and a nuisance.

Our members will recall that, as a result of this decision, it was later determined to place Local 1 under the immediate control of the International Union. Among the other decisions then adopted was one to the effect that anyone belonging to the Workers' Party or to the Trade Union "Educational" League, and who therefore is subject to the strict discipline of that party and bound to carry out its orders, may not be an officer in our Union. Moreover, the Union was given the right to expel them from its midst as members.

The Union, nevertheless, did not proceed to act in strict accordance with the instructions and decisions of the Boston convention. The General Executive, which is the executive agent of our conventions and its representative, either through a spirit of leniency, or believing that the enemy had been vanquished and that it would be unethical to give him undue post-mortem publicity, had neglected to act in conformity with the spirit and letter of the Boston assembly. Local 9 was allowed to go on with its antics without being placed under the supervision of the International, and in the executive board elections of Locals 2 and 22 the G. E. B. failed to insist upon the constitutional restriction that avowed communists and their followers be taken off the ballot.

The intentions of the G. E. B., of course, were of the best. They were prompted largely by the hope that these persons had finally come to realize how wrong and injurious to the organization their ways have been in the past and that, upon becoming officers of their locals and being confronted with the actual realities of the industry, they would discard their silly theories and would remember that the fate of thousands of workers demands that they behave as honest and conscientious Union men and women.

The International acted in this matter on the assumption that most of these fellows are honest workers, though somewhat dazed and blinded by communist phrases. It calculated that the best sobering-up method for them would be to place upon them duties and some responsibility. It was a noble intent, we must say, but, it would appear, that the International had lost sight of the fact that it was dealing with fanatics who are actually incapable of seeing things as they are; the International had forgotten that it was dealing with persons who graduated from a school where lies, misrepresentation and abuse are elevated to the level of virtues, if directed against the opponents of the Communists. Our G. E. B. failed to observe that these fanatics were only shaming and feigning inactivity while lurking in the dark and waiting for the first chance to spring upon the Union and stab it. What occurred later, therefore, came as the inevitable, as an act that could not have been averted.

During the last few months, Local 9, which unfortunately was not placed under the supervision of the International last year, and Local 22 which, through the laxity of the G. E. B., were permitted to elect communist tools as executive board members, have brought their organization through incapacity and mismanagement to the brink of ruin. The G. E. B. at last, prompted by the seriousness of the situation, decided to reverse its policy of mildness and watchful waiting and to act in the spirit of our by-laws and in conformity with the mandate of the Boston convention which it has sworn loyally to uphold.

During the preceding period of leniency the handy tools of the Communist charlatans who were warming the benches in the offices of these locals, obviously had misunderstood the mildness of the G. E. B. for evidence of weakness and vacillation. So instead of appreciating the generous spirit of the leaders of our Union, they redoubled their venomous attacks and their campaign slandering the International.

From time to time, the International would issue to them a mild warning to desist from their depredations, but apparently encouraged by their continued incumbency in office, have begun to regard themselves as "victors" and have practically turned over their locals, hook, bait and slinker, to some outsiders, implacable enemies of our Union. The moment finally was reached when the International had to make an end to this tragic-comedy and to wrest the locals out of their vicious, union-smashing grasp. The two leading bodies of our Union, the G. E. B. and the Joint Board of New York, would have been, indeed, guilty of treason to the workers had they allowed their former attitude of mild tolerance toward these union wreckers to continue.

It is not only the official charges under which they were placed that characterize the scandalous conduct of these executive boards. It is their steady behavior from the first moment they had assumed office in these locals which stamps them as the worst enemies of the organization. From the day they had been initiated as local officers to the last hour of their incumbency in office, they have never by any act or word shown or proved that as executives of these locals they were concerned by what might be good or bad for the Union and its members. In every line of their reports they never failed to emphasize their enmity for our glorious International and for its policy-shaping and executive agencies. It actually began to feel as if an enemy element had stolen its way into our house and had split it into two camps. The union meetings began to serve only one purpose—to besmirch and denounce the authority of the Union's leadership. There was not a decision or a move made by the International which was not lied about and misrepresented by them. It is enough to recall their perilous agitation against the dues, and the more recent, studied effort to

Address by William Green, President A. F. of L., At the Opening of Unity House, June 13th, 1925

Chairman, President Sigman.

Sisters and Brothers:

I promise you I will not transgress upon the proprieties of this occasion by indulging in a set address. I realize, as never before, that there is a time for everything and I realize fully that this is no time to indulge in speech-making. I think it would be appropriate and proper, however, for me to tell you how happy I am to convey to you the good wishes and the fraternal greetings of that great army of loyal, conscientious, thoroughgoing trade unionists affiliated with the A. F. of L. approximately 5 million working men and women. (Applause.)

I think further it would be proper for me to express to you as fully as I can my deep appreciation of your kind and your consideration shown to me during my visit with you. I was thrilled by the cordiality of your welcome when I arrived last night. I have been made increasingly happy by personal contact with you today and my admiration for your splendid organization has been increased beyond my ability to measure it because I have been permitted to see all around and about me the achievement, the visible achievement, of this great organization with which you are associated, and of which the A. F. of L. is very proud. I shall go from here carrying with me only the fondest memories of my visit with you. My friends, let me, for just a moment, think upon that force or that power that has made all of this possible. It seemed to me as I sat with you today that the accomplishment of the International Ladies' Garment Workers is more like a dream than a reality. Why, I can recall when I was struggling and fighting and sacrificing within my own organization, the United Mine Workers of America, something of the struggles and sacrifices of the pioneers who led in the organization of your union. Associated with your early struggles was the sweat shop, the oppression of

these ruthless employers for whom you toiled, the long hours, the injustices which were imposed upon you and the condition of semi-slavery under which you toiled, and that has not been very many years ago. I know there are brothers and sisters here tonight who can recall these days of struggle, of humble beginnings, of hopes unrealized many times, when they began the formation of this forward movement. And I presume if any one had been so optimistic, or if there had been any among you who had possessed such vision and would be able to say with certainty that within 20 years the I. L. G. W. U. would grow from nothing to a membership of 100,000, there would be a great many to rise and say that he was mistaken. Yet, step by step, you have gone on making the minds of men and women free, permitting them to enjoy freedom, increasing their intellectual powers educating them in sociology, political economy and in the great trade union movement. Oh, it is so wonderful, your accomplishment, that we stand, as it were, overwhelmed with surprise when we take into consideration all of these things you have done.

And, as I said, what is it that makes it possible? It is the bringing together by a cooperative method all the men and women engaged in the lady garment making industry. The power and influence there is within collective action and cooperation! You have accomplished wonders. — there is no argument, no dispute, up to that point. All about you is the visible evidence of your accomplishment and if you have done all this within the brief space of 15 or 20 years, I ask you in all fairness what may not your organization accomplish if it is grounded, deep, firm and secure into a compact organization moving together in a harmonious fashion toward the realization of a lofty ideal? I imagine you will even go beyond this, and if there is no one now who can properly measure the accomplishment of your organization

in this great field of human endeavor, don't let that stop you. I congratulate you upon your achievements. I wish for you continued success. I can say to you as a representative of the A. F. of L. that we are proud of you, proud of your accomplishment and the A. F. of L. will stand behind you and assist you in every way possible. (Applause.)

You know, men and women are sort of four-sided creatures. There is the intellectual, the spiritual, the physical and the social side in all of us. We cannot make a well-rounded man or woman and raise them to the standard where they fit properly into our social scheme by developing the one and neglect the other sides. There must be a systematic development in these four sides of the human being. Men and women were not made to work for labor only. They were not created for the purpose of toiling only. They were created for the purpose of living and that implies living a full, free and happy life. The social sides of their lives must be developed along with the intellectual and physical, and so here you are enjoying this social life and it is your organization in our labor movement that has made it possible. That attracts our attention to the fact that after all, it is the trade union movement that knows the human factor in industry. The worker is engaged through your employment in making money, making profits, the profits for his corporation or for his partnership. We are engaged in trying to secure a decent wage for the workers, more leisure so that they can develop the spiritual and social and intellectual part of their lives, we are trying to make it possible so that high wages and short hours may only be an instrument through which the working men and women may be able to live full, free and happy lives. Ours is a high ideal. We are trying to do that in America because America will not be a fit land for people to live in unless we make it possible for them to live a full, free happy life. (Applause.)

And we want to appropriate to ourselves in the development of this great trade union program all of the processes practically workable that may come to us in the development of the organization of this fuller, freer and happier life. We are not com-

mitted at any time to any fixed policy, but we are so flexible in the formation of our policies that we are willing to appropriate to our use all of the practical processes that we command in order to advance our common interests.

I am afraid that I am being carried away by the inspiration of this occasion and if I keep on I will transgress to making a set speech.

I cannot refrain, however, from referring to the fact that on occasions of this kind, especially when I come to speak to you in my official capacity as the representative of the organized workers of America, that we are reminded of the tragic and of that great leader who spoke to us for so many years and who led us along the pathway of progress so successfully, whose voice will be heard no more. This always brings to us a touch of sadness.

Our great leader, the great crusader, the man who led the hosts of labor for fifty years, our own beloved Samuel Gompers is gone and our hearts ache. My friends, the word defeat was never in his vocabulary, he never recognized it, his back and his brow and his head would never bend in admission of defeat, and we must catch his spirit, for I think I can truthfully say that if it is possible for the spirits to return from spirit land, that his spirit is here tonight approvingly looking down on this gathering and I would ask even at this delightful occasion that we follow a custom that he set when some outstanding figure of the labor movement had gone and at the conclusion of this address I would request that the Chairman ask us all to stand in silent tribute of this great man.

(Audience rises.)

Now, Mr. Chairman, sisters and brothers, I am sorry I cannot stay with you longer, I came away from my busy work just to meet you because I am deeply interested in you, but I must hasten away tomorrow to keep another appointment tomorrow afternoon. I want to say in conclusion that the time here has enjoyed the twenty-four or thirty-six hours here more than myself. It has been a most delightful visit, and how otherwise could it have been here where nature has made it so beautiful with a lavish hand? It is a delightful place for one to live in and rest in. I thank you for your kindness, hospitality, and generosity and I sincerely hope that I may have the pleasure of coming and meeting you again some time. (Applause.)

sabotage the decision of the U. E. R. concerning the assessment. All their petty gifts were concentrated upon one thing: To appear before the members as saints and to besmirch the honor and the name of those men and women who were elected to places of authority and responsibility in our International Union.

Time and again we have warned them. We have pointed out to them their false and crooked ways, and have emphasized the earnestness of the situation which they are creating. Their brazen antics, instead of subsiding, however, grew both in volume and insolence. To accentuate their enmity for the International they invited to their May Day meetings speakers who are notoriously known as the arch-enemies of our Union. They have taken money from their treasuries and loaned it to a camp which is competing with our Unity House, a spending institution which is so emblematic of the enterprising spirit of our Union. They, who should have known the truly-revolutionary nature of the industrial program for the enactment of which our Union has been fighting for many long months, instead of aiding us in its achievement have been engaged in the nasty business of putting logs in our way and embarrassing our moves. After our negotiators had agreed to demand a minimum guarantee of 32 weeks—a demand which the employers regard as confiscatory and extravagant—they come forth, without examining facts and realities, with a demand of their own for 36 weeks, and the Union's memorandum, which is being admirably commented upon for its clarity, tact and strength, they do not hesitate to attack as "treachery by the leaders!"

One is, indeed, compelled to ask in wonder: Are these Union men—are these Union officers in whose hands lies the fate of tens of thousands of cloakmakers? Can such a state of affairs be tolerated for another moment? The General Executive Board at its meeting in Chicago and the New York Joint Board at its meeting last week gave this agonizing question the only answer that could be given to it. The cancer that is devouring the vitals of the organization must be removed with a firm and unfaltering hand lest it ruin the whole body of our Union!

Such is the meaning of the decision of the New York Joint Board to place the above mentioned executive boards under charges and suspend them meanwhile in order to bring an end to their career of spreading demoralization and ruin within our Union.

An English Labor Opinion Concerning Dr. Levin's History of the I. L. G. W.

This history of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union is fully worthy both of the famous union itself and of the great reputation already possessed by Dr. Levine. It is at once scholarly and human, learned in its detailed exposition, and vivid in its story of the union's difficulties and triumphs. It is not only a history of a union; it is a valuable contribution to the literature of American economic history. It is a very striking fact that the earnest trades of America employ a bewildering variety of nationalities, and at the same time have 'vo of the finest and most efficient unions in the world. The growth of the I.L.G.W.U. has been phenomenal, not so much in membership, though it jumped from 55,000 in 1912 to 165,000 in 1920, as in influence and in the reputation it has acquired for its bold experiments and enlightened policy in regard to workers' education, health and welfare. It was the pioneer in America of Trade Union educational effort, its Union Health Center is unique, and insurance have attracted wide atten-

tion. Its experiments in unemployment insurance. The history of all these developments is sketched, and the full story of the famous industrial agreement known as the Protocol is here again with insight and instructive comment. Workers in the women's garment trade here have enjoyed the twenty-four or thirty-six hours here more than myself. It has been a most delightful visit, and how otherwise could it have been here where nature has made it so beautiful with a lavish hand? It is a delightful place for one to live in and rest in. I thank you for your kindness, hospitality, and generosity and I sincerely hope that I may have the pleasure of coming and meeting you again some time. (Applause.)

W. M. H.
The Labour Magazine, England

GRASP THE OPPORTUNITY!

The Office of the International, 3 West 46th Street, is open every Monday and Thursday until 7 o'clock to enable members of the Union to purchase

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Basic Industries in America

I. THE BOOT AND SHOE INDUSTRY

(Note: This is the first of a series of articles on basic industries. Others will follow.)

The Industry as a Whole

The boot and shoe manufacturing industry employs about 215,000 wage-earners in good times. This is a little over one-half of one per cent of the gainfully employed persons in the United States. In 1923 it turned out a product valued at \$156,475,000. Of this amount \$514,529,000 was spent for materials and power, and almost \$2,600,000 for work contracted outside, leaving \$135,550,000 to be divided between the workers, the owners, and incidental overhead expenses. Wages took \$259,385,811 of this margin, or nearly 55 per cent. There was approximately \$195,600,000 left for the owners, in the form of rent, interest and profits.

There are a few more than 1,500 factories in the industry. Massachusetts is the chief shoe state, doing from 30 to 35 per cent of the total shoe business of the country. New York comes next with about 20 per cent, then Missouri with from 8 to 16 per cent, followed closely by Ohio, Pennsylvania, Illinois and New Hampshire. The chief shoe cities are, in the order of their importance, New York, N. Y., Brockton, Mass., St. Louis, Mo., Lynn, Mass., Haverhill, Mass., Rochester, N. Y., Cincinnati, Ohio, Milwaukee, Wis., and Boston, Mass.

There are many more women's shoes made than any other kind. Before the war men's shoes predominated, but short skirts, elaboration of styles and less durable construction have expanded the sale of women's foot-wear. After men's come misses' and children's, boys' and youths', and infants' shoes. There is a large and growing sale of slippers, of athletic and sport shoes, and of various miscellaneous types. Most states make both men's and women's shoes. Pennsylvania, however, has more than its proportion of children's shoes. Ohio specializes in women's and New Hampshire and Wisconsin in men's.

Although the shoe industry has not fallen under the sway of monopoly and is still highly competitive, the large plants dominate it. Factories which turn out an annual product worth \$1,000,000 or more apiece employ from 60 to 75 per cent of all the wage-earners in the industry, and produce from 65 to 75 per cent of the total product. There are between 225 and 250 plants in this group, or not more than one-fifth the total number. The largest number of plants in any one size group is that turning out a product between \$100,000 and \$500,000 annually. Year by year the number of smaller plants has been decreasing and the business of the larger plants has grown.

Changing and Increasing Production—Seventy-five years ago all shoes were made by hand, one shoemaker turning out such completed shoes. Slowly small factories arose in which several shoemakers would share the work, each performing the process for which he was best fitted. Just before the Civil War the McKay machine was introduced. This was followed by a flood of ingenious shoe machinery. Steam power was utilized to drive the machinery, and more recently electric power has come into wide use. All this has led to a number of results: a division of processes so that there are now in a modern shoe factory two or three hundred

separate operations performed by separate people from the start to the finish of the work; increasing size of the factory itself; more shoes produced for a given number of labor-hours; and increasing amount of capital and capital charges.

According to the U. S. Department of Labor, in 1862 it took 1521 hours to produce by hand 100 pairs of shoes, while in 1895 it took only 236 hours to produce by machinery the same number of similar shoes, or less than one-fifth as much. The labor cost in 1862 was \$155.19, against \$59.55 in 1895. That this process has kept up is proved by a more recent study,* showing a reduction of 25 per cent in the time necessary to make a given number of shoes between 1916 and 1922.

This same study indicates that the total labor cost of making a single pair of shoes seldom runs over a dollar and is usually much less than that. All the rest of what the consumer pays goes for retailers' expenses and profits, cost of selling and distribution, manufacturing overhead and profits, and materials.

Hours and Wages

The shoe workers have obtained some benefit from the increased efficiency of the industry, but not nearly as much as they may eventually receive. The most substantial gain has been in shorter hours. There has been a steady tendency toward the reduction of hours for many years and this has brought a rapid change. By 1921 a large majority of the employees of the industry were working on the basis of 48 hours a week or less. In Massachusetts this percentage was 84, in New York 84, in New Hampshire 61, in Missouri 55. Of those working more than 48 hours a week, almost all were below 54.

It is sometimes argued that short working hours are driving the industry away from the New England States. This can scarcely be true in view of the fact that the chief gain has been New York State, which has just as short hours as Massachusetts and shorter hours than New Hampshire. Between 1909 and 1921 Massachusetts and New Hampshire lost in proportion of the total U. S. shoe workers, 7.4 per cent. During this period New York gained 7.3 per cent.

It is difficult to generalize about wages in the shoe industry since they are largely on the basis of piece rates for specific operations. Data furnished by the National Industrial Conference Board, an employers' association, indicates that the average weekly earnings of all shoe workers in 76 large establishments, employing about one-fifth of the workers in the industry, were \$22.51 in February, 1925. The average for male skilled was \$26.27, for male unskilled was \$19.74, for women \$17.09. These figures were considerably below the average for other prominent industries. The New York State Department of Labor reports that in that state the average weekly earnings in February, 1925 were \$27.65 for men and \$16.59 for women. The New York City figures were much higher—\$45.29 for men and \$22.04 for women.

By 1920 the earnings of shoe workers had a little more than doubled in comparison with 1914. There were reductions in the depression of 1921-22, but for the most part wages regained their position and are today just about twice the 1914 level. The cost of living, however, is not twice

as high as in 1914, and therefore shoe wages have made some real gains. The workers have thus shared to a certain extent in the rewards of the increased productivity of the industry, though their real wages have not risen as fast as the productivity.

Problems of the Industry

There are many possibilities of improvement before the industry, affecting the wage-earners even more than the employers, if certain difficulties can be overcome.

One of these difficulties is the wide fluctuation of employment. This is seen in two ways—the difference between periods of prosperity and periods of depression, and the difference between seasons of the same year. About 25 per cent fewer shoes were produced in 1921 than in years of prosperity like 1920 and 1923. This is the general average for the industry; of course the difference between full and slack production might be much greater in a given city or plant. The seasonal swing seems to range about as widely in each year. There are busy seasons in the spring and fall, and slack seasons in midsummer and mid-winter. Sanford E. Thompson, a prominent industrial engineer, calculates that 35 per cent of all the shoe workers' normal working time is lost through unemployment.

Another waste is the fact that even when workers are in the factory, about 25 to 35 per cent of their time is lost waiting for work, on account of bad planning and routing. There is also much waste in materials, through poor cutting or spoiled work.

Mr. Thompson estimates that the price of shoes at the factory could be reduced 21 per cent by removing the above wastes.

If we also could make merchandising more efficient, the price to the consumer might come down even more—without touching either wages or profits.

Union Organization

The fortunes of the unions in the shoe industry have varied from time to time, but at present there are about 29 per cent of the workers in the industry organized. The proportion of organization is much greater among the men than among the women, about 25 per cent of the former being union members and about 9 per cent of the latter.

As more of the workers join the unions, and as the unions extend their power over wider areas, it may be possible for them to exert a strong influence toward remedying the evils of the industry. Even if they could not reduce unemployment they might, like the clothing unions, adopt an unemployment insurance plan in which the employers would participate.

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The World We Create

By EMMA PLAYTON SEABURY

A song for the idle who roam at will,
And a shrug for the men who shirk,
But who will sing of the brick and
plating,
Of the bitter taunt and the cruel fling,
To the man who has no work
The man who will deliver it he had
the chance.

With saw or with plane would build,
Or would give a turn to a thought to
burn

Like an eagle flame in a golden urn.
If the dream of his life were filled,
Oh, who can tell of the bitter shame
To sink from man's estate,
And to humbly take for his children's
sake

The coin that is flung! Oh, the hearts
that break
In this world that we create!
For the plan of God was the same for
all.

The right to be and do;
If only we would learn to see
That the world was made for you and
me,

And not for a chosen few.
And we call it fate when our brother
falls

Because of the load we give,
Who suffers need through others'
grief,

Trampled by selfishness though he
bleed
That others at ease might live.

Oh, the saddest sight in the world
today
Is our neighbor passing by
With a weary pace and a blanching
face,

Who is out of work and out of the
race.
And we make it—you and I.

INCREDIBLE CALLOUSNESS

Immediately following the announcement from Washington that plans were under way to observe "Defense Day" this year on November 11, and thus merge it with Armistice Day, Dr. Sidney L. Gulick, Secretary of the Federal Council's Commission on International Justice and Goodwill, sent the following telegram to President Coolidge:

"The proposal to use Armistice Day as an occasion for a regular annual muster of our military forces will be viewed with grave concern by hosts of people in the churches. Since the convening of the Washington Conference on Limitation of Armament on November 11, 1921, Armistice Day has been widely observed each year by churches of all denominations as a time for urging a constructive program for world justice and world peace. To emphasize greater military preparedness on the anniversary of the armistice of a war which America entered in order to end war displays an incredible callousness to the ideals which our country championed during the war and to which the religious forces of the nation are irrevocably committed. An confident millions of church members would gratefully support your disapproval of observing Armistice Day as time for stressing military preparedness.

In commenting on the telegram, Dr. Gulick said in part:

"The adoption of the proposal of the Reserve Officers' Association to seize Armistice Day, thus dedicated to the ideals of world peace, and transform its character by making it a time for magnifying military preparedness, would surely be resented. The only proposal of this kind which would be more objectionable would be to use Christmas day as an occasion for proclaiming the necessity of the world's remaining an armed camp."



DOMESTIC ITEMS

Chemical Industry Deadly to Workers

PROTECTION to workers in the chemical industry is urged by the American Chemical Society. The death rate is about two and one-half times that for the non-industrial group.

Benzol poisoning is called a "very real industrial hazard." Silver nitrate, it is stated, has replaced mercury as a danger in mirror manufacture.

A survey of bleaching powder factories in this state show that this industry has gone back to the old process which was introduced in this country in 1873, and which brought legislation in England.

Public Power Plants Favored by Workers

GOVERNMENTAL development and operation of Muscle Shoals was favored by William Green, president of the A. F. of L., in response to an inquiry from the Muscle Shoals inquiry commission as to the best disposition of that valuable water power.

The commission was appointed by the president to investigate the subject, following the Senate's rejection of the Underwood leasing bill.

"Since such large government funds have already been expended," President Green said, "it would be a highly desirable and advantageous experience to continue Muscle Shoals as a government undertaking and experimental development to set standards for private undertakings and to furnish power commissions with experimental information and records of costs."

He also advocated a public policy to retain ownership for the people and to establish a system of control of all hydro-electric and water power undertakings where conditions and terms shall be determined. Where leases are granted, he said, they should be for a specific period only, with 50 years as a maximum.

Unions Urged to Aid Publicity Campaign

OFFICERS of the A. F. of L. and of the union label trades department of the A. F. of L. have issued a financial appeal in behalf of the campaign of organization and publicity that was indorsed last month by a conference of representatives of national and international unions in this city.

The campaign will be country-wide and will continue for 40 weeks. Five groups of four persons each will convey organized labor's message to the workers through lectures, literature and moving pictures, under direction of the union label trades department.

It is estimated that the cost of these five groups for 40 weeks will be \$120,000. In the appeal it is stated that "there can be no doubt of the great benefits which will result to the labor movement from an intensive campaign of this character."

In many sections of the country campaigns have already been launched by the organized workers, who report increased membership and interest among wage workers. A feature of the campaign is the importance of workers using their purchasing power to their own interests by demands for the union label.

Federal High Court Jars Anti-Trust Law

IN a decision that removes from the Sherman Anti-Trust law one of its main supports the United States supreme court has ruled that business men may exchange price lists and trade information.

The decision was made in two cases known as the cement case and the maple flooring case. Chief Justice Taft and Associate Justices Sanford and McReynolds wrote what is declared to be "one of the most startling opinions ever handed down by a supreme court justice."

"These cases disclose carefully developed plans to cut down normal competition in interstate trade and commerce," said Justice McReynolds. "Long impelled by this purpose appellants have adopted various expedients through which they evidently hoped to defeat the policy of the law without subjecting themselves to punishment."

"It seems to me that ordinary knowledge of human nature and of the impelling force of greed should permit no serious doubt concerning the ultimate outcome."

Johnston Re-Elected

IN the most hotly-contested campaign in the history of the International Association of Machinists, Wm. H. Johnston has been re-elected international president. E. C. Davison, general secretary-treasurer, and Fred Hewitt, editor of "Machinist's Journal," have also been re-elected.

The general vice presidents for the United States are: F. J. Conlon, J. T. Thorpe, H. F. Nickerson, H. W. Brown, Robert Fochin and William Hanson. James Somerville was elected Canadian general vice-president. Delegates to the A. F. of L. are C. W. Fry, Dan Haggerty, Wm. Larkin, George Marshall and C. F. Wills.

Oppose Competition; Standard Starts Suit

THE Standard Oil Company has started court action against municipal competition in Lincoln, Nebraska. By a popular vote the people empowered the common council to sell gasoline and oil at cost, plus the expense of handling.

Standard oil attorneys declare this change in the city charter is illegal, and that the popular vote should be set aside, as it conflicts with the action of the legislature, years ago, in giving the city the right to frame its own charter "for the government of the people."

The attorneys maintain that the charter amendment providing for municipal oil stations is void for the reason that selling gasoline and oil is no part of "government."

Recently the Nebraska supreme court put the state gasoline filling stations out of business on the ground that there is no authority to use state funds for that purpose.

FOREIGN ITEMS

ENGLAND

Increased Activity of the T. U. C. General Council

THE British T. U. C. General Council is making extensive plans for increasing its activities in several directions. It will develop the efficiency of the Trades Council by means of a Joint Committee representing the General Council and the local Trades Councils; it will also extend its educational work and its international activities. It also has in view various other work for the assistance of the affiliated unions. Large plans for these branches of activities are now under way.

Trade Union Inquiry into Foreign Competition

THE General Council of the T. U. C. has set up a special committee of seven to investigate the effect of foreign competition on industry. The committee will collect information from the unions affiliated with the Congress as to the effect on wages, hours, etc., in the various trades. The committee is also authorized to seek information from other countries, so that its report may be "a complete and authentic statement of the position."

GERMANY

The German Trade Union Congress

THE Twelfth Congress of the German Trade Unions will be opened on the 31st of August at Breslau. The following are among the items on the agenda: Social Legislation in Germany; the Question of Organization; Industry, Trade and Finance and the Trade Unions; Discussion of the Rules of the General German Federation of Trade Unions.

LUXEMBURG

The Reintroduction of Works' Councils

WORKS' COUNCILS were established in Luxembourg in 1919, and after existing for two years, they were suspended in 1921, thanks to the hostile influence of the Belgian and French ambassadors. The reasons given for the suspension of the councils were inadequate; they had not acted illegally, nor had they even been found guilty of irregularities.

The reactionary government, however, fell a few months ago, and the new government, which has a better understanding of Labor questions, has re-established the Councils. Their powers are less wide than in the first instance, but they will nevertheless be strong enough to afford protection to the workers.

The new regulations provide that a permanent works' council must be established in every undertaking employing a minimum of 20 workers regularly. The functions of the councils will be to supervise the observance of collective agreements, welfare institutions, wages, etc.

It seems highly probable that members of the "free" trade unions will be elected to serve on these councils. The councils have indeed only been restored in consequence of the protests of these unions and the Labor party, and the recent success of the "free" unions in the elections to the Chamber of Labor is an earnest example of their influence in Luxembourg.

DENMARK

The Lockout in Denmark

THE courage and resolution shown by the Danish workers during the 10 weeks lockout which has been forced upon them are producing an effect upon the employers, who are showing more willingness to make concessions in order to reach agreement with the workers. The dockers' and transport-workers' strike proclaimed by the workers as a counterstroke to the lockout is contributing to this result, for this strike has stopped work in all the ports, so that the economic life of the country is hit where it is particularly vulnerable. In another week, too, the Union of Shipmen and Stokers will carry into effect the strike which they have notified. The energy with which the workers have waged the fight has convinced the employers that their refusal to consider the last demands of the metalworkers and the general workers only serves to postpone agreement. They have therefore consented to renew negotiations.

The chief point of discussion was the wages of the skilled workers in the metal industry. This time the employers are said to have made concessions which the union leaders concerned think will prove acceptable to the workers. At the moment negotiations are going on between the Employers' Association and the Union of General Workers. Here the differences of opinion are greatest, and therefore the prospects of settlement least; but as influence is being exerted in many quarters to end a conflict which is highly dangerous to the whole of Danish economic life, there are some grounds for hope that even those obstacles may be eliminated, and peace made.

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EDUCATIONAL COMMENT AND NOTES



What the Workers' Education Bureau Stands For

By LLOYD M. CROSGRAVE

Lecturer Workers' Classes, Special Representative Worker's Education Bureau

The American Federation of Labor desires all of its members to be educated to the highest degree possible.

What is education?

Education is a short name for the development of the human being.

Education of a trade unionist is anything that makes him better able to serve himself, his family, his trade union, the labor movement and the human race in general.

It is this which the American Federation of Labor is anxious to promote through the Workers' Education Bureau.

Education of a trade unionist is anything that will either increase his inherent powers or will add to his useful knowledge.

In the first place one must increase one's powers.

A man becomes of more value to the labor movement in proportion as he increases his ability to speak clearly and to the point; in proportion as he becomes more able to set forth his thoughts in writing; in proportion as he becomes more able to throw his influence in favor of what makes for the greatest ultimate good. These are among the ways in which he increases his inherent powers.

In the second place one must add to one's knowledge.

A man becomes of more value to the labor movement in proportion as he understands the workings of the intricate world in which we live; in proportion as he knows what the story of the labor movement in the past has been; in proportion as he knows what are the best policies to be followed by labor organizations in order to get long run results; in proportion as he knows where to go to find information that will throw light on problems that confront him. In fact, the information that a trade union man should have in order to make him 100 per cent efficient is so boundless that no human being can ever expect to attain it. All any person can do is to go as far in this direction as circumstances will allow.

These two things constitute education:

- (1) Development of one's own powers.
- (2) Addition to one's knowledge.

All too often education has been thought of merely as close association with books and classes.

It is true that much that is of value can be learned from reading the right kind of books and it is also true that the gathering together into classes to listen to lectures and to take part in discussions is of very great use. The Workers' Education Bureau is promoting both these kinds of activities. It is doing all it can to make them more popular among trade unionists.

The Workers' Education Bureau stands for much more than this however. Education is much more than classes and books, though these are of great value. Education is anything that will add to one's ability or to one's knowledge.

Education comes from attending one's union meeting regularly and from giving careful thought to what there goes on; education comes from taking an active part in one's union proceedings in so far as one thinks he can thereby help the things undertaken.

Education comes from carrying on private conversation with people concerning matters pertaining to the general welfare, listening carefully to what is said and contributing one's own views in a tactful manner.

Education comes from reading attentively one's trade journals and from sending to them from time to time letters upon important subjects, if it seems desirable to do so.

Education comes, in short, from whatever will add to one's abilities or to one's knowledge.

Whatever will promote and help education in its real sense among workers, that the Workers' Education Bureau stands ready to do. Among other things, it urges the formation in every industrial center of trade union classes for the study of problems pertaining to workers.

It is noticeable, however, that the emblem of the Workers' Education Bureau consists of a picture of Abraham Lincoln who hardly attended classes at all.

Whatever promotes a more thoughtful and better informed body of wage earners, is desirable and is what the Workers' Education Bureau, under the auspices of the American Federation of Labor, stands for.

What English Women Want To Know

(Continued)

Women in the Home

Education is very near to the home and may start from there. All working women want better houses to live in, better education and healthier lives for their children and the opportunity of giving them a fair start in life. Every woman would be glad to work towards this end not only for the sake of her own children, but also to help all children who are starting life handicapped either by unhealthy surroundings or by inadequate preparation. But how can she help? The majority of married women have no 48-hour working week, but an endless working day and work, in which all their time and energy is taken up by the cares of the home. In spite of this, some women have already found a way of helping, either through their Co-operative Guild, or in the Labor Movement, or in some form of public life. Many other women would be glad to help if someone would show them the way.

The W. E. A. can do this for you. It can arrange discussion groups of working housewives to study questions of public health and housing and education. You have the practical experience, and the W. E. A. can show you how to use that experience, to help not only yourself, but others.

The Women Trade Unionists

Women in the factories and workshops have found out during the last

few years that the only way to get better conditions is by organization. Shorter hours and higher wages have been won by the self-sacrifice and work of men and women in the workshop. And the fact that women's position in industry is still so unsatisfactory is due chiefly to the apathy and ignorance of that vast number of women workers who are still unorganized. Even among those who are organized the payment of a weekly Trade Union subscription is not enough. Women's position in industry will never be fundamentally changed until there is a great increase in active Trade Union work and until you find women able and willing to play an active part, not only in their workshop and branch, but also in the higher offices of their unions. Although this is increasingly happening, many women, who are really anxious to help, still hang back through lack of confidence and experience.

The W. E. A. can help by arranging classes and lectures on industrial and economic questions for groups of Trade Unionists. It does not matter that you have not read and studied these questions before; you have the practical experience, and the W. E. A. can help you to get the knowledge which will enable you to serve your fellow-workers and the Trade Union Movement.

—Reproduced from the Working Women of Great Britain.

"Clear Voices In English and American Literature"

By B. J. R. Stolper

Course given at the Workers' University of the INTERNATIONAL LADIES GARMENT WORKERS UNION Season 1924-25

(Continued from last week)

Lesson 5.—"The Old Ballads—The People's Own Songs"
Why they are of interest to us.

They were the first genuine literature of the people to which the common people responded; often written about them, and always for them.

Who wrote them.—The authors are usually unknown. The Ballads were made to be sung, were handed down by word of mouth, and began to be written down only in the 15th century.

The dialect.—Usually the language of the northern border between England and Scotland.

The style.—Simple, swift, easy to understand; always dealing with life, seldom with book-learning.

The contents.—The sort of material that would make headlines in the newspapers of today: mystery, war, elopement, suicide, etc., of well-known persons, noble or common. The stories they told and the expressions they used are to be found over and over again, in authors from Shakespeare to our own day.

Peculiarities.—

1. Irrelevant mention of gold and silver.
2. Use of the number three, seven and nine.
3. Constant repetition, as in children's stories.
4. Strange use of a "burden" or chorus.
5. Swift action, lack of description.
6. Employment of talking animals as messengers.
7. Stanza and rhyme.

Some ballads specially worth reading.—The Cruel Brother, Sir Patrick Spens, Wally Wally, Bonnie George Campbell, Edom o' Gordon, Hind Horn, The Gay Goshawk.

Suggestion.—A low-priced edition published by Macmillan, contains most of the above, with fine notes, introduction and appreciation.

THE EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM FOR OUR SUMMER UNITY HOUSE AT FOREST PARK, PA.

Our Educational Department has worked out a plan of lectures and discussions to be given during the season at our summer Unity House, Forest Park, Pa. These lectures will be given mornings under the pine trees, the audience comfortably resting on the lawn.

The first lecture will be given by Max Levin on Wednesday morning, June 24. His subject will be "What is a Labor Movement?" The lecture will be given either in English or Yiddish, according to the wishes of the audience.

The second lecture will be given by Alexander Fichandler on Sunday morning, June 28. The subject will be "Psychology and the Workers."

The third lecture will be given by Theresa Wolfson on Tuesday morning, July 7. Her subject will be "Women in the Labor Movement."

The lecturers will be members of our faculty who have been connected with our Educational Department for several years, and who have acquired the necessary technique of presenting the subject matter to our members.

The subjects will be varied. They will deal with economic, social and labor questions and also literature, and the audience will find the discussions most instructive and inspiring.

The educational program for the rest of the season will be announced later.

РУССКО-ПОЛЬСКИЙ ОТДЕЛ

АРБТРАЖ И ПОЧЕМУ.

Забастовка это война в миниатюре и как таковая есть крайнее, последнее средство, к которому как война, так и рабочие организации должны и обязательно прибегать только в том случае, когда истощены все средства уладить возникающие недоуладимые миром, по существу не должна считаться первым и последним средством во взаимоотношениях между хозяевами и рабочими.

Нельзя отрицать огромного экономического влияния общественного мнения на исход борьбы между капиталом и рабочими, влияние это складывается с одной стороны на духе бастующего рабочего от сознания того факта, что общественное мнение находится на его стороне, которое сочувствует ему, зная, что он сделал все возможное, чтобы избежать конфликта и теперь для него не осталось другого выхода кроме забастовки. С другой стороны общественное мнение в этот момент будет встать против хозяина, вызывая конфликты.

Нельзя также упустить из виду и того факта, что от настроения широкой массы населения зависит в большой степени и выдвигаются судом различных претензий (скажем) против рабочих организаций.

Для иллюстрации можно привести то, что случилось недавно в штате Вост Вирджиния: несколько недель назад федеральный судья в Вост Вирджиния приказал постановить запрещение против митингов, устроенных, как видели мировой организационной работы среди неорганизованных рабочих этой промышленности. Через несколько дней этот же самый судья запретил также бы то ни было организационные митинги от стороны митинга Общественных Штатеров Америки, а это означает, что нельзя признавать и организации — через посредство солила жителей, через посредство своей печати, через посредство помощи писем, нельзя признавать и организации через посредство обзвонки в какой бы то ни было прессе, нельзя созывать комитет бы то ни было собраний для обсуждения дел митинга.

Почему такие запрещения возможны.

но в штате Нью-Йорк против нашего митинга? Ответ очень ясный. Невозможно бороться в законодательстве из России, Австралии или Польши. Просто потому, что общественное мнение не может допустить применения столь строгих мер к митингу, который испытывал для достижения своих справедливых требований все мирные средства прежде, чем прибегнуть к забастовке.

Одним словом, арбитраж это с одной стороны рынок траншей, — занятие выгодным для войны позиций, и с другой стороны возможность достигнуть своих целей без кризиса.

ДОБАВЛЕНИЕ К ПРАВИЛАМ РЕГИСТРАЦИИ ДЛЯ ПОЛУЧЕНИЯ ПОСОБИЯ ИЗ БЕЗРАБОТНОГО ФОНДА.

Подкомитет Совета Доверенных (тресте) Безработного Фонда — для урегулирования регистрации клоуменеров на предмет получения пособия из этого фонда — решила установить нижеследующие временные правила:

1) Рабочие, не имеющие мастерских, должны самостоятельно регистрироваться в Регистрационном Бюро (№ 6 Нет 29 я.) и после записи должны аккуратно являться в Бюро в указанное им время.

2) Рабочие, принадлежащие к мастерским, или членам которых были их имена, адреса, номера заказов и книжки для записи на лист, подлежащий отсылке в Бюро — не должны лично регистрироваться в Бюро. Рабочий этого класса будет обязан письменно или через наш клоумера в дни, когда они должны будут явиться в Бюро для ре-

гистрации. Такое посещение будет показано им когда придет их очередь для получения денег.

3) Для контроля же рабочие лично мастерские, должны явиться к своему или чужому по крайней мере один раз в неделю в мастерской клоумера, если же мастерские не будут открыты, то наш клоумер имеет право выбрать любое место для такой явки. В удостоверении факта, что рабочий явился и наш-клоумеру — при каждой явке рабочий должен расписаться на специально для этого выданной наш чужому бумаге.

4) Как говорилось выше, всем клоумерам каждую неделю будут выдаваться регистрационные листы, которые наш клоумер после того как рабочие порасписались на них, должны будут представлять в Бюро, от которого должны быть получены подтверждения этого правила будут зависеть аккуратность выдачи пособия. На всех бланках "наш чужой" должен будет стоять весь не законченный в данную неделю работы.

5) Многие мастерские не посылали своих репортеров за пособием два месяца.

Для проверки выполнения вещей в этих мастерских Бюро в настоящее время собирает от наш-клоумера сведения для прекращения работ в их мастерских.

В случаях, как например, когда нет наш-клоумера, мастерские репортера, продана, люди разошлись по другим мастерским и, вообще, где нет никакой возможности выполнить эти правила — за разъяснениями обращаться в контору клоумера.

ВНИМАНИЮ КЛОУМЕНЕРОВ.

В понедельник, 22-го Июня, в 7 ч. 30 м. клоумера в помещении Русского Общества "Парка", 315 Нет 10-ая ул., состоится регулярное собрание членов Русско-Польского Отдела. В порядке для важных вопросов. Приходите вовремя.

И. Шевченко, секретарь.

PRESENT DAY-BOOKS ARE ABOLISHED

In their place, the General Office of the I. L. G. W. U. is now preparing a combination day and receipt book which will be more practical and useful than the day-books in vogue until now.

Secretaries are to print no more receipt or day books for their locals, as the combined book will soon be available and would have to be used by all the financial officers of all affiliated organizations.

All other forms of day or receipt books will after that be regarded as unofficial and not legitimate.

Fraternally,
ABRAHAM BAROFF,
General Secretary-Treasurer,
I. L. G. W. U.

THE RECORD AND PUBLICATION DEPARTMENT, I. L. G. W. U.

Is calling upon all secretaries of affiliated locals to transmit to it monthly, before the 15th of each month:

1. All day-book sheets, where income from members is entered.
2. The specially prepared index cards for members accepted through transfers or reinitiation.
3. A detailed report of members suspended during the month.
4. New addresses of members caused by change of residence.

According to our by-laws, a local of the I. L. G. W. U. may be fined for failure to supply the information requested above. We ask our local secretaries therefore to be prompt concerning it.

LOCAL SECRETARIES

We deem it necessary to call your attention to the fact that the per-capita to the joint boards and all other taxes levied upon locals from time to time is being fixed in accordance with the number of members on the books of the Record Department of the I. L. G. W. U. for each of its locals.

It would therefore be to your benefit to inform officially this Department concerning any member that you may drop from your books, by transfer, for non-payment of dues, or for any other cause, so as to prevent your local being charged with per capita taxes or any other assessment for members no longer belonging to your organization.

Be sure and inform us the number of weeks in arrears due your local by any suspended member on the day of his or her suspension.

Fraternally,
H. A. SCHOOLMAN,
Director.

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3 West 16th Street, New York City

Out-of-town members can secure it at half price through local secretaries.

The Book contains several excellent illustrations — from the early days of the organization to the last Boston Convention.

P. S. The General office will be open until 6:30 p. m. every Monday and Thursday to enable our members to purchase the book after work hours.

The Week In Local 10

By SAM B. SHENKER

Two elements coming one on top of another point to a resumption of activity in the cloak and dress industries. The first is the fact that within the past week a number of working cards were issued to members of the local who were going back to work. The second element is that one of the employing groups, namely, the Association of Dress Manufacturers, is raising certain issues. And the statement in a trade organ to the effect that indications point to the making public of the report by the Governor's Commission in the matter of the renewal of the cloak agreement between June 25 to 28th and July first, leaves little doubt but that the next two or three weeks will see the trade on a normal footing.

Some Cutters Begin Working

No local is in as good a position as Local 10 to be able to venture an opinion as to whether or when the industry is to resume. Through the system of working cards, it is easy for the office to tell what the outlook is for a coming season and if a season is about to begin.

The number of men who secured working cards and whose shops are beginning to get busy is by no means large. However, from indications, the opinion may be ventured that the season is about to commence. The activity is not as telling in the dress trade as it is in the cloak. Fewer working cards were issued to dress men.

Of course, it cannot be stated in any certain terms that work will be resumed within the next two weeks. The cutters who began working are mainly at work on samples and duplicates and grading patterns. It is hardly possible that the bulk of the membership will be at work before July fifteenth.

So far, the outlook in the cloak trade is fair. It is speculative even from statements by employers as to what the season holds out to the workers in the dress trade.

Commission May Report By End of Month

From statements appearing in a certain trade organ, the likelihood is that the Governor's Commission may be ready to submit its report to the various interested parties towards the end of the present month. "What the report holds out and how it will be received are matters of speculation. The reports heard cannot be repeated, as they lack credence, for not until the Commission actually makes its report public will anyone definitely know just what the recommendations are.

The two employing groups, the Jobbers and the members of the Protective Association, have kept pouring out during the past two weeks or so statements to a certain newspaper, attacking certain phases of the union's program in the matter of the renewal of the agreement. In their statements they say that the granting of a guarantee of a minimum period of employment to the workers would curtail the season, "saddening" a decrease in the number of the shop, and a cessation of the existence of the Industrial Council would also be the result if this demand were granted the union.

The union, however, has made clear in its original memorandum and briefs the point that for the present condition to exist would mean going back to the sweat-shop conditions of 1915. The statements of the employers, therefore, mean nothing but an attempt towards maintaining the

chaos brought about by the system of contracting and sub-manufacturing.

Dress Contractors Seek Conference

The raising by the dress association of issues may be taken as an indication of the resumption of work. The jobbers' association had once made an attempt to nullify the agreement entered into between the dress association and the union by their refusal to pay the scheduled prices. A stoppage soon convinced the jobbers that the union meant to have the agreement lived up to.

Immediately following the stoppage the slack season set in and matters were quiet for a time. Now, however, that the season is about to set in the contractors' association is making an attempt to place obstacles in the way of the fulfillment of the agreement.

Last week a difference occurred which resulted in a break for one day by the association in its relations with the union. The break, however, lasted no longer than twenty-four hours and normal activities were resumed. The association followed this with a letter to the Joint Board, asking for a conference, saying in effect that conditions in the trade have not improved and they therefore seek to meet the union for the purpose of discussing the situation.

As to whether the conference sought for will take place and what will be taken up cannot be said at the present time. Whatever the outcome may be, the union purposes to see that the workers receive the conditions secured for them by the union under the present agreement.

The belief is that as long as the slack season prevailed and the shops were idle the employers felt that the union was powerless to enforce certain provisions of the contract. Now, however, that the condition in the trade is assuming a more favorable aspect, the employers are raising issues.

At a meeting called by Julius Hochman, Manager of the Dress Department of the Joint Board, of all the business agents in this division, the question of the enforcement of certain important phases of the agreement was discussed and instructions were issued to the business agents to see to it that no violations occur and that if any do occur proper action should be taken.

June 25th Membership Meeting Important

The meeting scheduled to take place on June 25th in Arlington Hall, 23 St. Mark's Place, of the entire membership of Local 10, promises to be very interesting and a very important one.

While this was not declared to be a special meeting by the Executive Board and while no special order of business is advertised, nevertheless, it is likely that the members will hear important reports.

The likelihood that the Commission will make its report public by the end of the month is sufficient reason for the membership to attend this meeting. Added to this is the belief that Manager Dolinsky will have returned from abroad by that time and the meeting will be the first since his leave of absence.

He has called the office the date of his sailing and under normal conditions he should be in the office before the meeting takes place. His arrival is timed with the conditions in the trade and the organization. Immediately upon his return he will be plunged into very important work.

In his correspondence he states he

is glad to be on his way home. He has written to the officers and to many active members and sends his greetings to the cutters of some of the large shops, including Portfolio, Wilkins and Adler, Mattie Carnegie, J. S. Becker, and to the cutters of a number of other shops.

Must Report Employment in Non-Union Shops

There were summoned recently three cutters, two cloak men and one dress, before the Executive Board on charges of failing to secure permission for employment in non-union shops.

There is a common error under which many members of the union labor in connection with employment in unorganized shops. And that is that since the firm is non-union it follows therefore that permission is not required.

These men forgot that permission to work in a shop which is given in the form of the issuance of a working card is not only a badge signifying the fact that the member is in good standing and entitled to working privileges. It also means that the shop for which the card is issued is listed as a good-standing union shop in which members of the union are permitted to work.

It often happens that members are refused working cards for particular shops. This may be due to any number of reasons — that the shop may be unorganized, that it may be on strike, or that the employer refuses to pay cutters the proper wages.

To repeat for the sake of emphasis, a working card issued to a member of the union not only signifies that the member is permitted to work, but that he is permitted to work in the particular shop, which complied with union provisions. A member of the union who secures employment in a non-union shop reasons incorrectly when he thinks that the union will not permit him to work in a non-union shop. For, that being the case, that is, if he thinks the union will not permit him to work in a non-union shop, it follows that he has no right to work there even without a working card and because of it.

Hence, when the three men mentioned first were called to the Executive Board this was made plain to them and they were fined accordingly. Members should take heed and report to the office within twenty-four hours for the purpose of securing a working card, which means determining, as to whether they may work in the particular shop in which they have secured employment.

Worked Piece Work

It was probably the first time that Joe Seckler, Ledger 5555, employed by the firm of Schwartz and Leventorf, was summoned before the Executive Board on a charge. Had he known better he would have pleaded guilty to the charge of working piece work and as a result would have been dealt with far more leniently. At any rate, he will know now that before the office makes a charge against a member of the union, the charge is substantiated.

Seckler was summoned by Brother Isidore Nagler, the acting manager of the cloak division, on this charge, who gave the cutter the opportunity

in his office, prior to the meeting of the Board, to make a clean breast of the charge, and promised that he would be dealt with accordingly.

The cutter, however, stubbornly maintained his innocence and persisted in denying his guilt. Nagler, though, had fore-armed himself with a report by an accountant of an investigation of the firm's books, which revealed sufficient evidence to prove Seckler guilty of working under irregular arrangements.

In addition to the payroll check drawn for the entire shop, there were two additional amounts drawn which were marked "For Silk" and "For Cloth". The employer, however, could not explain who had purchased the silk and the cloth. This, however, was not the most damaging evidence.

The evidence which made for the conviction were three checks drawn to the order of "Bearer". One check was dated March 25, drawn for \$150, made payable to "Bearer", and the stub, marked "SILK", was endorsed by Joe Seckler.

Another check was drawn on the same date, namely, March 25, also made payable to "Bearer", the stub of which was marked "SILK", and was endorsed by the same cutter. As will be readily seen, two checks drawn on the same date totaling \$200 were endorsed by Seckler.

The third check dated April 15, on the stub of which was marked "Samples", and endorsed by the same endorsee, was drawn for the amount of \$144.52. The cutter argued before the Executive Board, that these amounts were check exchanges. However, this did not explain his endorsing checks marked "SILK" and "Samples".

To Control Miscellaneous Trades

During the course of the report to the members of the Miscellaneous Branch of Local 10 at their meeting which was held on Monday evening, June 15th, in Arlington Hall, the members were informed that Brother Hansel would begin a control of all of the shops with a view to seeing to it that proper conditions prevail and that the members observe the rules.

The control is important at this time because the members of this division are required on July 1st to have in their possession new working cards which are to be in effect for the latter part of the present year.

It is important that between now and the first of July every member of the Miscellaneous Division should have his book in his possession at the time of Brother Hansel's visit. In the meantime all the members of this branch are required to come to the office and turn in their old cards and secure the cards for the new season.

Shop meetings will be held after work of the large Independent and Association shops. Another purpose of the control is to impress upon the members the importance of greater activity and better attendance of the membership meetings. They lag in respect to these two points.

Hansel expects to complete his control in at least a month's time and hopes that his efforts will bear fruit.

CUTTERS' UNION, LOCAL 10

REGULAR MEETINGMonday, June 29th

At Arlington Hall, 23 St. Mark's Place
Meetings Begin Promptly at 7:30 P. M.